

Appln No. 10/776,073  
Amdt date July 12, 2005  
Reply to Office action of April 21, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A wheel comprising:  
  
a wheel blank having an outer peripheral portion and a base design; and  
  
at least one design element different in configuration from the base design and extending over only a circumferential subsection of the base design,  
  
wherein the at least one design element is a separate part removably attached to the outer peripheral portion of the wheel blank.
2. (Currently Amended) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank further comprises ~~an outer peripheral portion,~~ an inner hub portion and an intermediate portion bridging the outer peripheral portion and the inner hub portion.
3. (Cancelled)

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4. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank is made from aluminum.

5. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the wheel blank is made from steel.

6. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is a different color than the wheel blank.

7. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element has a different finish than the wheel blank.

8. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element has a different surface texture than the wheel blank.

9. (Currently Amended) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is attached to the outer peripheral portion of the wheel blank by screws.

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10. (Original) The wheel of claim 9 wherein an adhesive is applied to the screws prior to attaching the screws to the wheel blank.

11. (Original) The wheel of claim 10 wherein the adhesive is a high strength threadlocker.

12. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is made from aluminum.

13. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is made from steel.

14. (Original) The wheel of claim 1 wherein the at least one design element is a shaped plate.

15. (Cancelled)

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16. (Currently Amended) A wheel comprising:

a wheel blank having a base design, an outer peripheral portion, an inner hub portion and an intermediate portion bridging the outer peripheral portion and the inner hub portion, and

at least one plate different in configuration from the base design and extending over only a circumferential subsection of the base design,

wherein the at least one plate is removably attached to the outer peripheral portion of the wheel blank ~~at the intermediate portion~~ by screws, and

wherein the at least one plate is ~~a different~~ different from the wheel blank in at least one of the properties color, finish and surface texture.

17. (Currently Amended) A wheel comprising:

a wheel blank having a base design and an outer peripheral portion; and

means for ~~altering the design~~ a design of the wheel blank by addition of at least one design element without remachining the wheel blank,

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wherein such altering means are separate and removably  
attached to the outer peripheral portion of the wheel blank, and

wherein the at least one design element is different in  
configuration from the base design and extends over only a  
circumferential subsection of the base design.